REMARKS

In an Advisory Action dated May 14, 1999, the Examiner refused entry of the claims presented in the Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 filed April 28, 1999. In response to the advisory action, Applicant files this preliminary amendment concurrently with a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants contend that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to reexamine these claims. Allowance of these claims at Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: June 08, 1999

WILLIAM W. SCHAĀL

Reg. No. 39,018

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor Los Angeles, California 90025 (714) 557-3800